

St Peter's with St Mark's Hospital Church

Annual Meeting 2018

Sunday 29th April 2018 at St Peters Church, Maidenhead

Present: There were 85 people present at the meeting.

Apologies: Pippa Ayres; John & Liz Barringer; Liz Eaton; David & Heather Grant; Lesley MacLeod; Isobel May; David & Margaret Winyard.

Annual Meeting of Parishioners (Vestry Meeting)

1. **Apologies** as listed above
2. **Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners 27th April 2017**

Andrew Fleet proposed that the Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record. Lesley Haldane seconded the proposal. The Minutes were approved and signed without amendment.

3. Election of Churchwardens

David took the opportunity to thank the outgoing Churchwardens for their work, particularly Tony over the last five years, including throughout the interregnum. Presentations were made to Tony and Mary and the Church expressed their appreciation with enthusiastic applause.

David prayed for Tony and Mary thanking God for their service and asking for blessing on the new roles they will continue to hold within the church.

Ian Knight was nominated by Anthony May, seconded by Stephen Cronbach.

Jean Stevens was nominated by Sarah France, seconded by Ann Trevor.

The number of nominations matched the number of available vacancies, (2). Both Jean and Ian briefly introduced themselves to those present at the meeting. A vote was taken on the nominations of Ian and Jean and both were declared duly elected when the vote was unanimously carried with no abstentions. Their appointments were affirmed with warm and appreciative applause from the fellowship.

David prayed for the newly elected Churchwardens Jean and Ian.

The meeting closed.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Apologies for absence – see list above
2. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 27th April 2017

Jeremy Stevens proposed that the Minutes were accepted as a true record, seconded by Mark Gould. The Minutes were then approved and signed without amendment.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Declaration of Any Other Business

The appointment of Deputy Wardens – this will be under item 6.

5. Elections to the PCC

Candidate	Proposed by	Seconded by	Period of Time
Lucy Bellinger	Charlotte Cox	Andy Swift	2018-2021
Ian Cheeseman	Stephen Cronbach	David Robinson	2018-2021
Tim Stone	David Lee	Tom Collinson	2018-2021
Anthony May	Hazel Cronbach	Sandy Young	2018-2021

The number of nominations (4) matched the number of vacancies. A vote was taken on all of the nominations. All of the above were duly appointed unopposed with no abstentions. David thanked the outgoing members of the PCC for their commitment and work.

David took the opportunity to remind the meeting of the purpose of the PCC and invited people to be in prayer for the coming year about the vacancies that may arise next year.

All of the new members of the PCC are invited to serve for a period of three years. The appointments to the PCC were warmly received from those present and prayers were then said for all elected members of the PCC.

6. Appointment of Stewards/Sides people/Deputy Wardens

Deputy Wardens (St Peter's)

This is a new role and Deputy Wardens will have the delegated responsibility of ensuring that the Sunday Morning services run well and efficiently. This will help to relieve the pressure on the two Churchwardens, but they have no legal responsibility.

1. Andrew Fleet
2. Stephen Cronbach
3. David Robinson
4. Christine Berry
5. Tony May
6. Jeremy Stevens
7. Sandra Young

It was proposed by Howard Goldsmith that those listed above be accepted as Deputy Wardens at St Peter's and this was seconded by Sue Wilson. All present were in favour of this proposal.

Stephen Cronbach proposed, Ann Trevor seconded, the acceptance of the Stewards at St Peter's & Sides people at St Mark's listed below. All present were in favour of those listed being Stewards/Sides people.

Stewards (St Peter's)

1. Sue Fleet 2. Howard Goldsmith 3. Jayne Goldsmith 4. Ian Cheeseman 5. Linda Goulding 6. Charlotte Cox 7. Helen May 8. Tim Streeter 9. Richard Thorogood 10. Anita Li 11. Julie White 12. Richard Preston 13. Tim Stone

Sidespeople (St Mark's)

1. Barbara Buckle 2. Clifford Baker 3. Brian Belcher 4. Maggie McPherson 5. Roy Shimmin 6. Alan Frampton 7. Diane Hayes 8. Wendy Robinson 9. Doreen Young 10. Wendy Frampton 11. Duncan Hopkins

7. Appointment of Independent Examiners of 2018 Accounts

The company M. R. Salvage Ltd of Bourne End was proposed by Hazel Cronbach as the Independent Examiners of 2018 Accounts. This was seconded by Larry Galliford. The proposal was accepted by all present.

Formal Reports: The Reports on the PCC; the Deanery Synod; and the Fabric Report were all distributed as part of the Agenda in order to save time.

Stephen Cronbach asked a question about the Vicarage and progress in this area. David confirmed that new plans have been submitted and we are waiting for the local planning authority to pass these plans. The Diocese believe that a new vicarage will be forthcoming next year (around summer 2019) if all goes according to plan.

8. Electoral Roll Report (Linda Goulding)

Linda Goulding reported that there were 161 names on the electoral roll at the end of the last meeting. Since then 23 people had joined the roll and 10 people had been removed, 2 of whom had died and 8 had moved away. The roll therefore reopened after the meeting with 174 names listed, of whom 53.4% reside in the Parish and 46.6% live outside of the Parish.

9. Finance Review for 2017 (Alan Berry)

Alan Berry presented a Financial Review of 2017 which was based on the Annual Report and Financial Statements for 2017 previously made available to the members via the website and limited hard copies.

Alan pointed out that the PCC members were the Trustees of St Peter's and St Mark's PCC that had been a registered charity since 2012. As a registered charity it would be filing the Annual Report and Financial Statements with the Charities Commission once accepted by the APCM. Funds were categorised in the accounts as Unrestricted, Restricted and Designated.

The Parish funds had strengthened in 2017 through the generous response of the members to a Stewardship programme launched in October of that year. A three-year budget was in place to support the vision; additional expenditure was required for a Curate and a Children and Families Worker in 2018 as part of the realisation of the Vision. Parish funds had also improved from a legacy received by and designated to St Mark's. The payment of the balance of the loans for the Open Church Project in 2017 would reduce the outgoings from 2018 onwards. Whilst reserves were now at a good level, there were risks – for example the potential, expensive repair of St Peter's Church roof and guttering - and requirements including updates to audio visual systems. Furthermore, inflation was beginning to bite and the Parish would continue to encourage giving.

Alan thanked all members for their continuing generosity in supporting the mission and ministry of each church, and for supporting our mission partners: St Mark's distributed £1,106 and St Peter's distributed £25,237 in 2017.

Alan also thanked Hazel for her tireless work in all aspects of the finance duties particularly in putting together the accounts in record time this year.

The meeting was opened to questions from the members.

Peter Higley asked if there were any plans for the use of the legacy that St Mark's had received. Alan responded that the PCC had approved the upgrade of the sound system at St Mark's and that the St Mark's Committee would be considering the best use for the money in future meetings. Peter Higley also asked how much the addition of the Curate and Children and Families Worker would add to St Peter's expenditure and was it affordable. Alan replied that the estimated cost would be £40,000 per annum from their appointment and that it should be affordable. Bishop Andrew had allocated £10,000 from a bequest to the Vision and the PCC had agreed to some funds being allocated from reserves. This, the increased giving following the Stewardship Programme, the freedom from Open Church Project loan repayments, anticipated growth of church members, and the grace of God should enable the expenditure to be covered.

Fran Sharp raised the point that 'Open Doors' had not been included on the list of Mission Partners presented. Alan agreed it was an error and apologised.

Alan proposed that the members accepted the accounts. The proposal was seconded by Martin Flynn and carried without dissent or abstention.

10. Any Other Business (as raised at Agenda item 4).

There were no additional items raised.

Review of the Year

Mark Gould; Tim Stone and Jo Ellington gave short presentations on the Vision themes below and how they were being put into practice within the life of the Church.

LOVE JESUS; SHARE LIVES AND TRANSFORM COMMUNITIES.

LOVE JESUS – Mark Gould

Mark shared some of the activities that help individual members of the congregation increase their love and knowledge of Jesus Christ and understand more fully their role as Christians within our two churches. The recent Alpha Course, where 15 people attended gave opportunity for people to ask the big questions about faith and to see what Church today looks like. Alongside it there was a Bible Study for Christians – a new opportunity to learn and study more of the Bible. The Young People's groups from the Creche upwards have fun whilst they learn to love Jesus; what it means to be a Christian and the basics of our faith. New for this year we have a Youth Alpha which is well attended. The Worship Group also find that as they lead the congregation in worship their love for Jesus has grown.

The prayer groups – Listening Prayer on a Monday; the Monthly Tuesday Encounter Prayer Times and the Prayer Weeks have also all played a part in helping the Church to understand more about Jesus and develop our relationship with Him in prayer.

Connect groups that give the opportunity to study God's word, allow time to know one another and support each other both practically and in prayer help us to show Jesus' love to each other. A new connect group has recently formed and is an ideal opportunity to join a group if not already part of one.

Loving Jesus is a journey we find ourselves on and it was Mark's prayer that we would all love Jesus more and more in the coming year, remaining in Him and letting that love flow out to others as everything we do is related to and springs from our love for Jesus.

SHARE LIVES – Tim Stone

Tim Stone reminded the meeting that the disciples founded a church based on sharing lives as outlined in Act Ch. 2. There are many ways in which we have shared lives over the past year, an example being the lunch we shared as part of this APCM. Recently there was a Family Breakfast before the service especially aimed at parents with young children who can miss out on meeting up with others on a Sunday when busy with children. The family BBQ in the summer was something that all ages attended and enjoyed, the sun even shone! The young people have weekends away and other social activities which give them shared experiences and an opportunity to grow closer and form bonds with both their peers and leaders. All of these things help us to keep connected. Other times where we share lives include the Quiz night – a social event that is bigger than our church; the Women's Breakfast Meetings and the Bereavement Service where people gather to remember people they have lost and connect with people in similar circumstances. Church is for every part of our lives – happy and sad. Some of us even share holidays (New Wine). The Alpha/Explore evening shared a meal together at the start of the evening which gave an opportunity for people who are searching to be with people from Church who are learning – a new way of helping people to understand that we are on a faith journey together. Finally, the Connect Groups are an ideal way to share our lives and develop relationships within our church.

Tim prayed about all of these activities that are at the heart of the church over the year, for those committed to help them take place and that they would attract others so that God may add to their number those who are being saved.

TRANSFORM COMMUNITIES – Jo Ellington

Jo read from The Message Matthew Ch 5: 13-16 where it describes us as being salt bringing out God flavours and light showing God colours in our communities. These will lead to us transforming communities which is why we are here! Some of the ways in which we have reached out to the surrounding community is through Alpha; Craft Club; Knit and Natter; Toddlers; Schools e.g. Courthouse, Alwyn and Furze Platt and being a Foodshare distribution point.

We are going into more schools and new children are coming along to church as a result. There are many children coming through the church through Easter Cracked and Christmas Unwrapped and the Light Party and there were record numbers at our Christmas services last year, particularly Christingle. We thank God for these opportunities.

From the Toddlers Group to the Senior Lunch Club – one end of life to the other we make connections with our local community. The Church is also used for other groups in the communities so that we can forge relationships with a wide range of people.

Jo thanked everyone who gets involved in every aspect of our work – mainly volunteers - and acknowledged the work and commitment that is required to make St Peter's and St Mark's a church that lives out our vision. Jo prayed that God would guide and strengthen us as a church and individually for His work.

Looking Forward

David brought the meeting to a close by sharing the following reflection on John Ch 3 v35 (Jesus called his first disciples). Looking forward to the coming year there are 3 characteristics that these first disciples had that we should also have:

Called to be courageous – ambassadors, ours is not just a private/personal faith.

Called to be committed – to God and to each other - prioritise Sunday worship; our personal devotions; connect groups, whatever we are involved in.

Called by God – God calls us to be something that we are not already. To become something greater than we are presently. He has a plan for each one of us.

We can step forward in confidence in this knowledge as a Church.

The meeting drew to a close with worship led by Mark Gould - Be Thou My Vision.

David closed the meeting in prayer at 14.10